

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 PPT-01 VO-03 PER-01 OPR-02
A-01 CPR-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 SIL-01 LAB-04 SS-15 SP-02 USIA-06 /067 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM:CEJ
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM
-----010087 130051Z /64

P 122102Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
INFO USLO RIYADH PRIORITY
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, CVIS, SA

SUBJECT: VISA RECIPROCITY: NEW SAUDI RESTRICTIONS ON VISA
ISSUANCE

REF: JIDDA 5580

1. AUGUST 12 ARP DIRECTOR CALLED IN SAUDI CHARGE TO DIS-
CUSS PROBLEM RAISED REFTTEL. WE BRIEFED HIM ON EMBASSY
JIDDA'S NOTE TO MFA ON THIS MATTER AND ON AMBASSADOR AND
DCM'S SUBSEQUENT DEMARCHE TO PRINCE AHMED. WE MADE IT
QUITE CLEAR USG FULLY UNDERSTANDS THE INTENT OF THE NEW
SAUDI REGULATION; THAT USG HAS FOR YEARS REFUSED VISITOR
VISAS TO PERSONS WHO APPEARED NOT TO BE BONA FIDE VISITORS
BUT THAT WE DO SO ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. WE INDICATED
THAT PROBLEM WITH NEW REGULATION IS ITS BLANKET NATURE
WHICH PUNISHES THE INNOCENT VISITOR ALONG WITH THE ILLEGAL
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IMMIGRANT. WE NOTED THAT THIS WAS CREATING NUMEROUS
CASES OF REAL HARDSHIP FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES IN SAUDI
ARABIA AND MAKING IT MORE DIFFICULT TO FIND QUALIFIED
AMERICANS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
KINGDOM. WE NOTED THAT PRINCE AHMED HAD INDICATED A
DESIRE TO SEEK MODIFICATION OF THE REGULATION TO AVOID THESE
PROBLEMS BUT THAT WE WANTED SAUDI EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO BE

FULLY AWARE OF SITUATION AND OUR SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT IT.

2. CHARGE SAID HIS EMBASSY FULLY SHARED OUR CONCERN. UPON NOTIFICATION OF NEW REGULATION EMBASSY HAD "WRITTEN" MFA POINTING OUT THE HARDSHIPS REGULATION WOULD CAUSE. CHARGE SAID THAT IT OBVIOUS THAT TRUE INTENT OF REGULATION WAS TO KEEP OUT "PAKISTANIS AND EGYPTIANS" AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE APPLIED TO "AMERICANS AND EUROPEANS". HE SAID EMBASSY AT MOMENT HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO APPLY THE REGULATION AND THAT HE ALREADY HAD TO REFUSE A NUMBER OF VISA APPLICATIONS UNDER IT. HE PROMISED TO COMMUNICATE ONCE AGAIN WITH MFA URGING THAT REGULATION BE AMENDED TO PERMIT VISITS BY BONA FIDE VISITORS.

3. WE DID NOT RAISE QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY, FEELING THAT AT THIS STAGE, AT LEAST, TO DO SO WOULD NOT BE CONSTRUCTIVE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770866/aaaacdit.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 JIDDA 5580
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Release Date: n/a
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